

Hydrogen-Powered Fuel Cell Vehicles

New Information

The Vehicle Identification Number Analysis (VINA) database is returning a motive power (MP) code of “N” (natural gas) instead of “E” (electric) for hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles.

Procedures

Effective immediately, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will accept Application for Registration of New Vehicle (REG 397) forms reflecting hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles with MP code “E” from California-licensed dealers.

For Business Partner Automation (BPA) participants, the MP code “E” must be keyed in the *MOTIVE POWER* field on the *DATA COLLECT* screen.

NOTE: Follow current procedures listed in the *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §10.030 when changing the MP for used and out-of-state vehicles.

Background

Vehicle manufacturers classified hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles as natural gas-powered and coded the vehicle identification number (VIN) to generate an “N” instead of “E.” DMV is working with vehicle manufacturers (including Mercedes Benz and Honda) to have MP code “E” for hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles generated through VINA.

References


Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual §10.030
California Vehicle Code §4000.1
California Health and Safety Code §44011

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV’s Automated E-mail Alert System in October 2012.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.



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